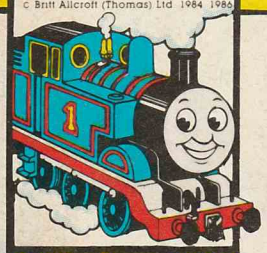
A BALLOON for YOU!

MARVEL®
© William Heinemann Ltd 1988
© Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd 1988
© William Heinemann Ltd 1984 1986
© Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd 1984 1986



30th Apr. 1988
No.14 35p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

A surprise on the line for Henry!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!

Peep! Peep! Do you like your splendid Thomas balloon from *Deeko plc*? In this special issue Thomas is a little too cheeky for his own good, and in our second story, you can read about the cow on the line!

DON'T MISS OUT!

It costs £9.00 to be sent every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for a whole **year**. It's a bargain! You will also be made a **Club member** automatically if you do not already belong! Club members receive a **membership card**, a smart **certificate**, a Fat Controller **emblem**, a **door hanger** and a splendid **puzzle** too! Turn to page **18** for details!

COLOURED TOKENS!

If you do not wish to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**, here's a **new** way to join the **Thomas Club:** just collect **3** tokens like the one at the bottom of the page. From now on you should collect one **red** one, one **green** one and one **yellow** one! Send your coloured tokens, together with a self-addressed envelope (23cm × 16cm) complete with an **18p** stamp, to: *The Thomas Club (Tokens), 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.*

THOMAS TOKEN

A NEW FRIEND FOR THOMAS !

One of the biggest events in Britain this year is the **Glasgow Garden Festival** – it's on from 28th April until 26th September, 1988. Among the many splendid exhibits, displays, concerts and street theatres, you'll find Thomas's new friend, **Lady Victoria the Third.** In the **Falkirk Junction Play Park** you can even play on her footplates! She is a smart yellow tank engine with red piston rods!

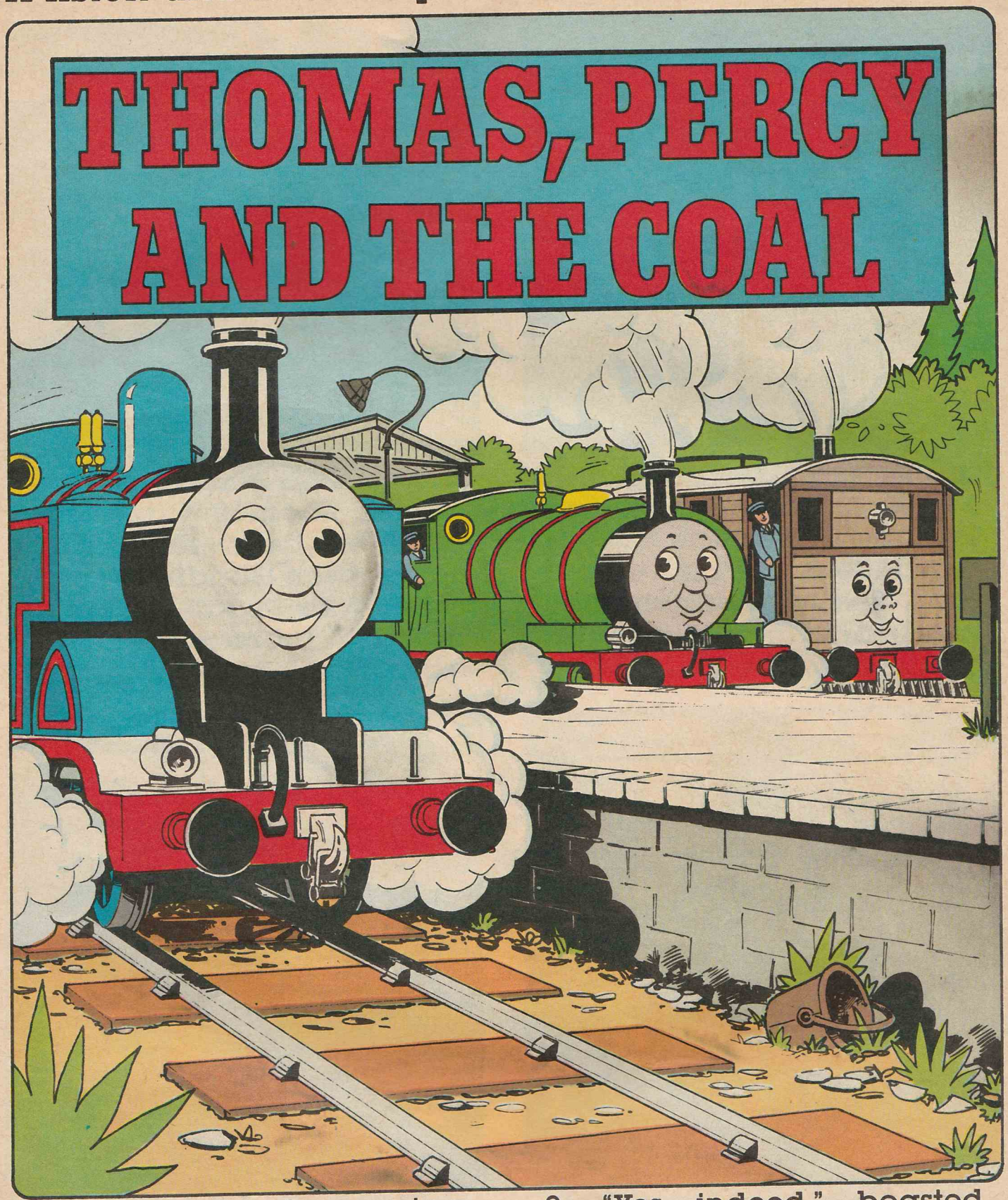
Every **Thomas Club member** who shows their membership card to the Play Leader on site will be given a free pass for two children to swim at the **Mariner Leisure Centre** in Falkirk. So why not come along, bring your membership card, meet Thomas's new friend and get a chance to visit the best Leisure Pool in Central Scotland! Bring your parents too!

Deeko plc also make Thomas the Tank Engine paper tableware as well as party invitations, cake frills, candles, trumpets and banners! Everything for a wonderful Thomas party – and on sale now!

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by MARVEL COMICS LTD a New World Entertainment Company, 23 Redan Place London W2 4SA. All THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited 1988 © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 1988 All rights reserved No similarity between any names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this comic with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental Printed in England Distributed by Comag Reproduction of any part of this publication, in any form or by any means is prohibited

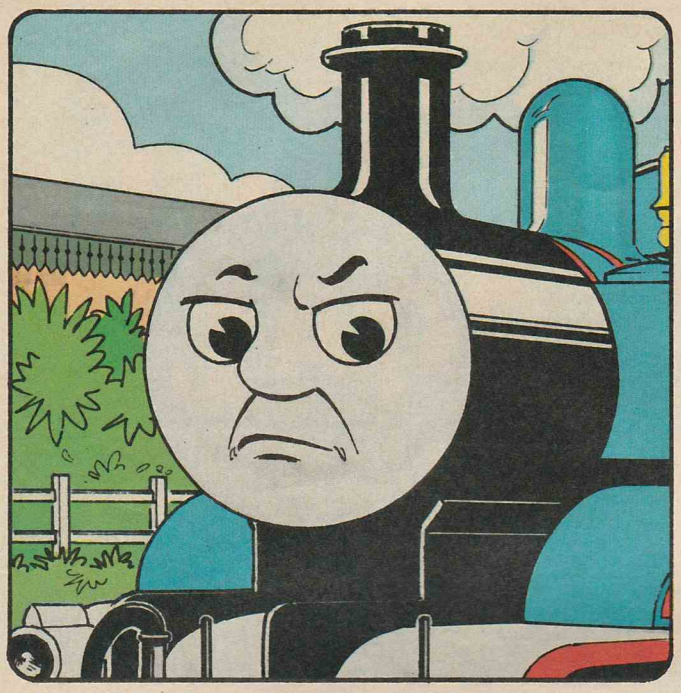
A listen and look story!

THOMAS, PERCY AND THE COAL



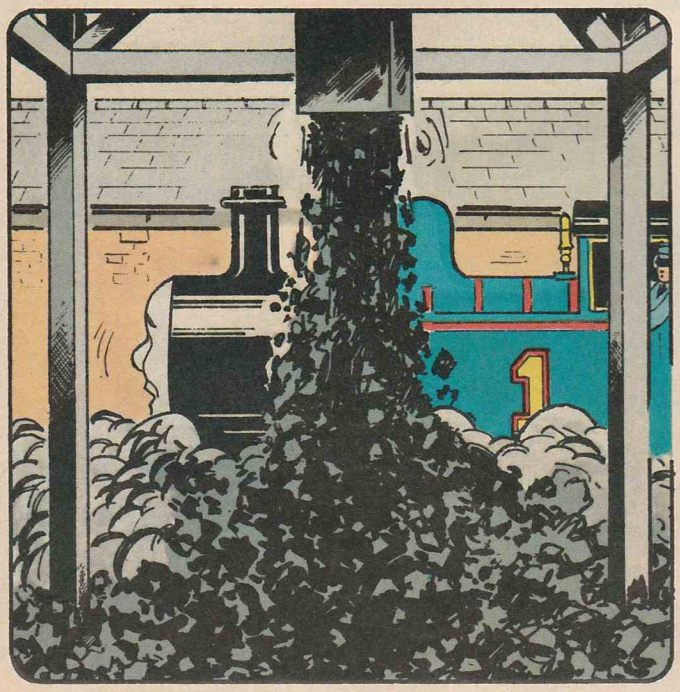
1. It was a lovely morning on the Island of Sodor and Thomas's blue paint sparkled in the sunshine. "Hullo, Thomas," whistled Percy. "You look splendid."

2. "Yes indeed," boasted Thomas. "Blue is the only proper colour for an engine to be." "I like my brown paint," said Toby. "And I'm glad I'm green," said Percy.



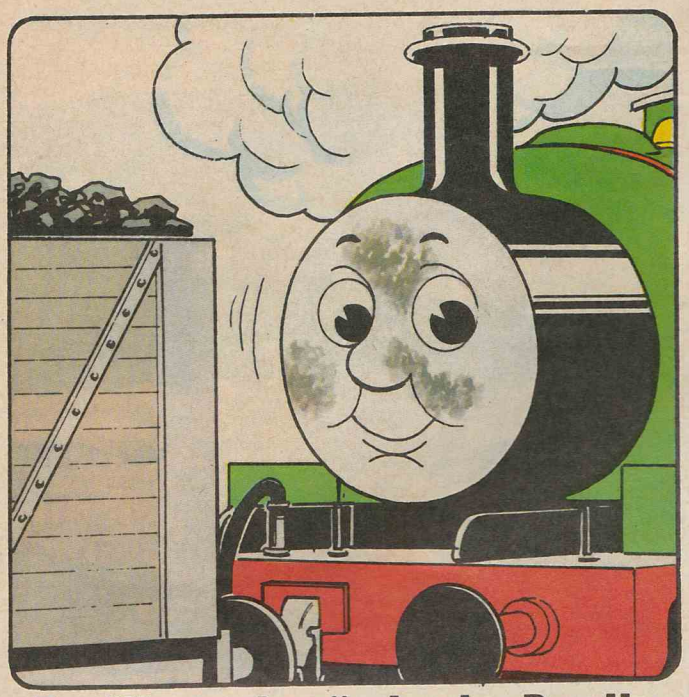
3. "Well, anyway," huffed Thomas. "Everyone knows that blue is the only colour for a Really Useful Engine!" Percy said no more. He just grinned at Toby.

4. Later, Thomas was resting when Percy arrived. A large hopper was loading Percy's trucks with coal. "Careful," warned Thomas cheekily. "Watch out with those trucks..."

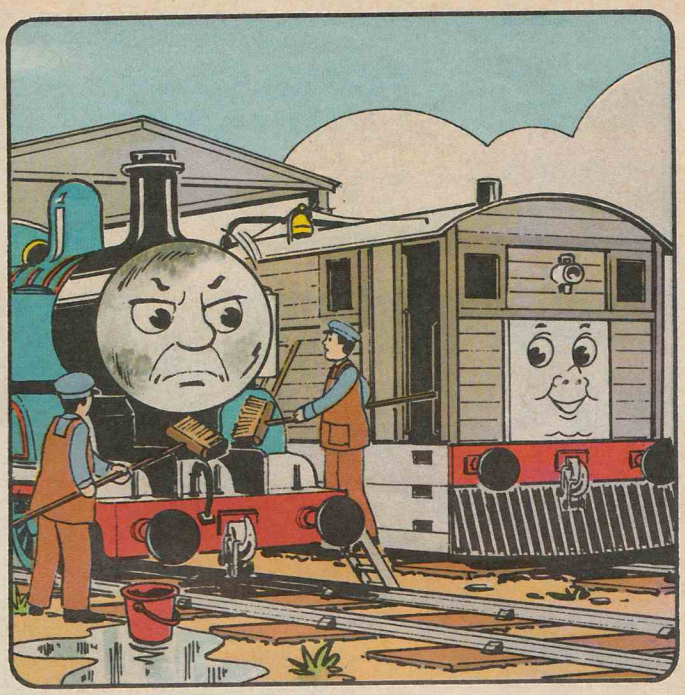


5. Thomas got no further. With a tremendous bump, Percy's last truck passed the hopper much too fast. The coal poured down – all over Thomas.

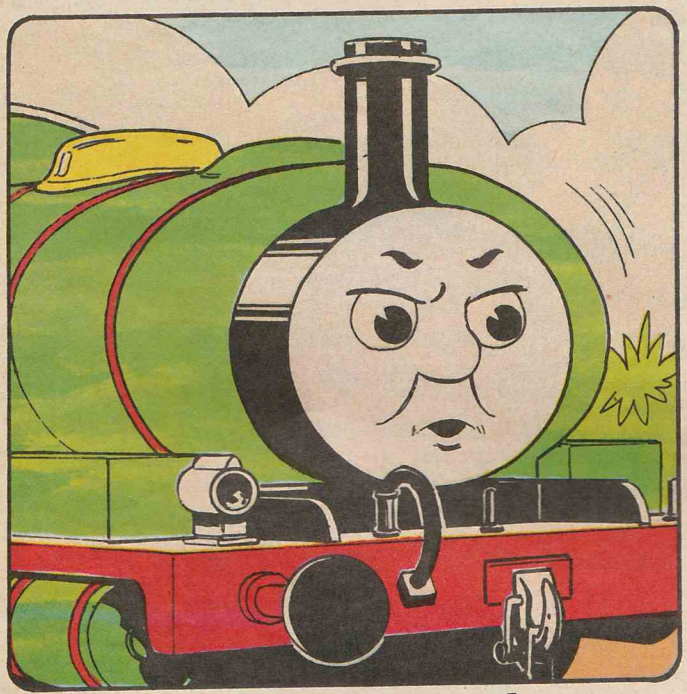
6. "Help!" cried Thomas. "I'm choking! Get me out!" Percy couldn't help laughing. Thomas's blue paint was covered in coal dust from smoke box to bunker.



7. "You don't look Really Useful now," chuckled Percy. "You look really disgraceful!" "I'm not disgraceful," choked Thomas. "You did that on purpose. Get me out!"

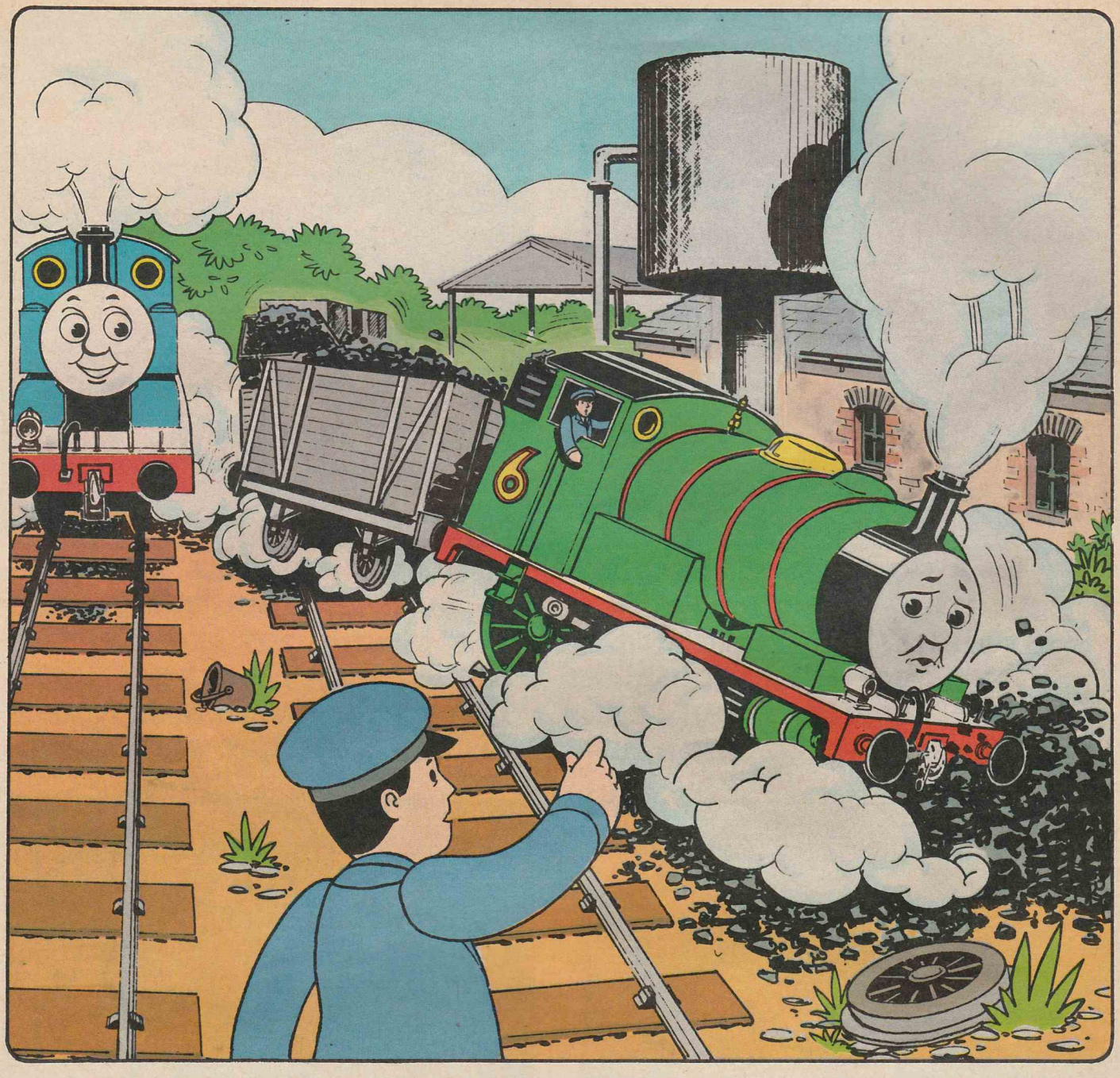


8. It took so long to clean Thomas that he missed his next train. Toby had to take Annie and Clarabel. "Poor Thomas," whispered Annie to Clarabel. They were upset.



9. Percy was cross because Thomas thought he had made his paint dirty on purpose. "Fancy Thomas becoming a disgrace to the Fat Controller's Railway!" he teased.

10. The next day Thomas was more cheerful. Percy was bringing heavy trucks from the junction. He was tired. "You'll feel better after a drink," said his driver.



11. The water column stood at the end of a siding where the buffers were rather unsafe. Suddenly, Percy found he couldn't stop. The buffers didn't stop him either. "Oh! Help!" wailed Percy. The buffers were broken and he was wheel deep in coal. "Now Percy has learnt his lesson too," chuckled Thomas to himself. He had seen it all.

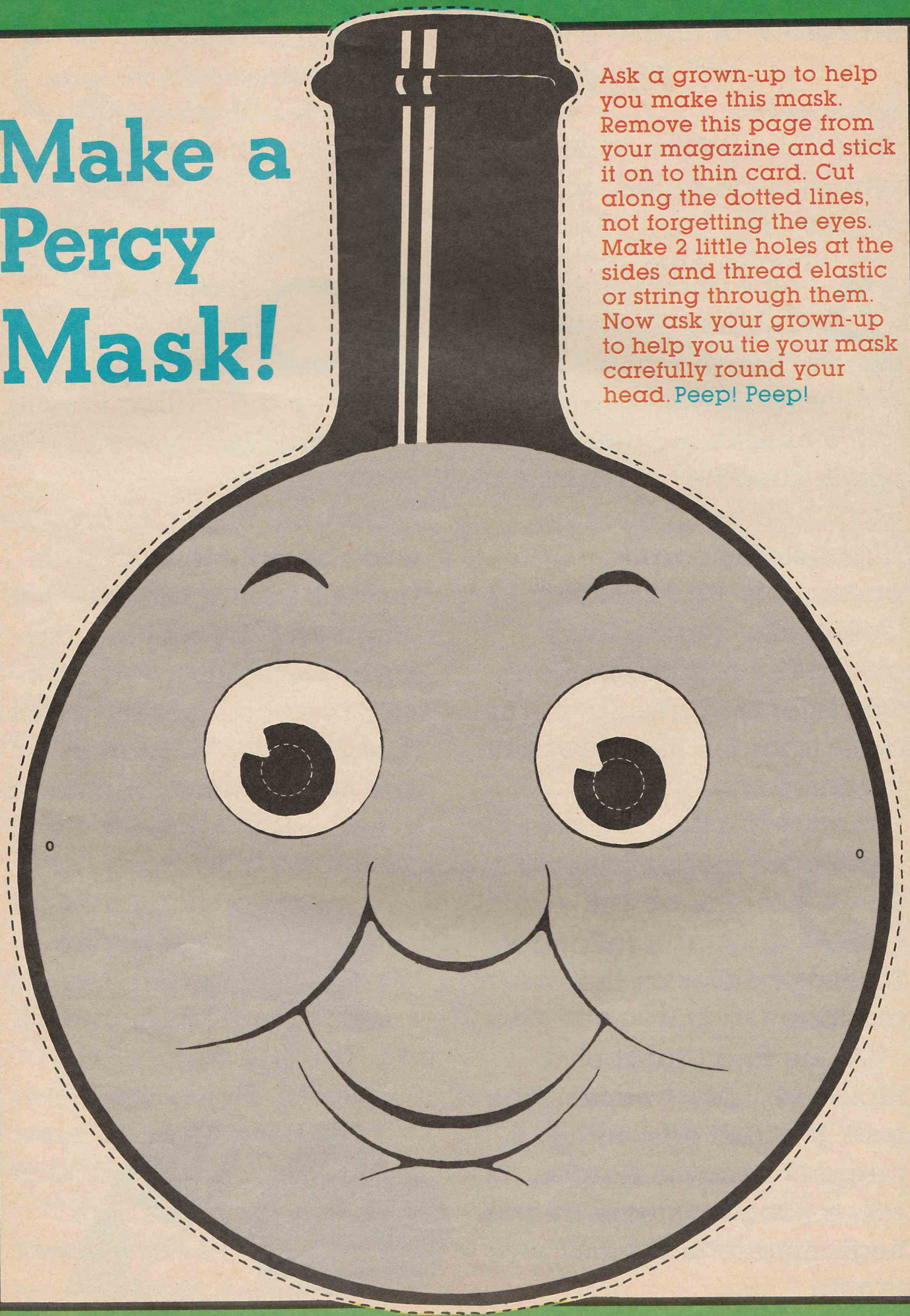
12. The two engines made up their quarrel that night in the shed. "I didn't cause your accident on purpose, Thomas," whispered Percy. "You know that, don't you?" "Of course," replied Thomas. "And I'm sorry I was cheeky. Your green paint is looking splendid again too. From now on we'll both be more careful of coal, won't we?"

THE END

In our next issue: Bertie's chase!

Make a Percy Mask!

Ask a grown-up to help you make this mask. Remove this page from your magazine and stick it on to thin card. Cut along the dotted lines, not forgetting the eyes. Make 2 little holes at the sides and thread elastic or string through them. Now ask your grown-up to help you tie your mask carefully round your head. Peep! Peep!



A read-aloud story!

The New Coaches

Annie and Clarabel are Thomas's coaches. They are rather old, but they still work very hard.

"We mustn't be late, we mustn't be late," they sing to help Thomas on his way.

Annie only carries passengers. Clarabel is a 'composite' coach. This means she has two sections. One is for the passengers. The other is for the luggage and the Guard.

One morning they overheard the Fat Controller talking to Thomas's driver on the platform.

"Annie and Clarabel... replaced... new coaches," he said. It wasn't easy to hear properly because Gordon was getting up steam and beginning to leave the station.

"Oh dear!" said Annie. "The Fat Controller thinks we are getting too old. He is going to replace us with new coaches!"

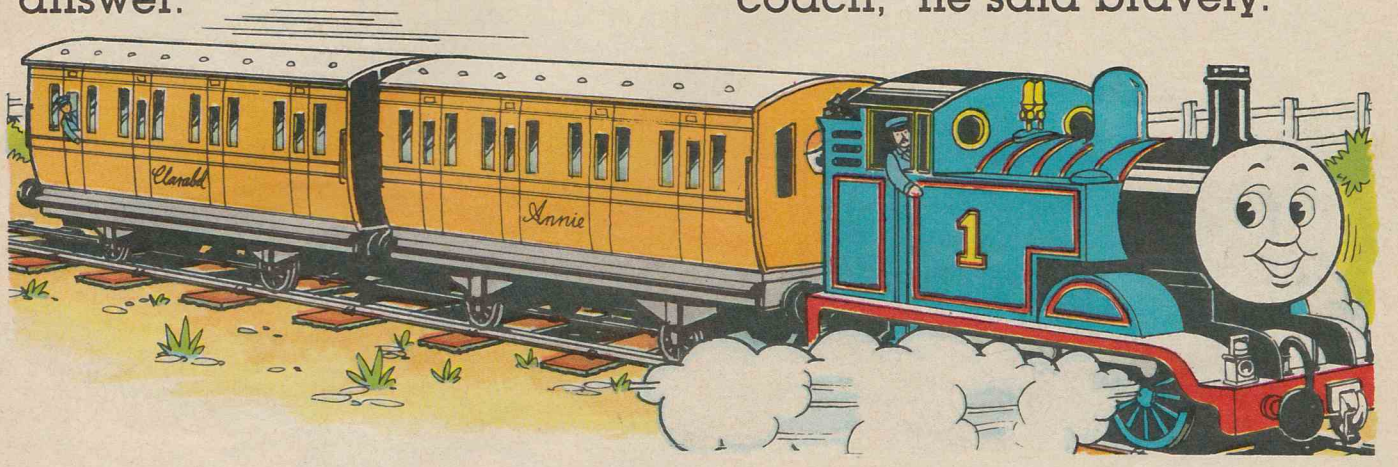
Clarabel began to cry. "We won't be able to work with Thomas ever again! We might even be sent to... the scrap yard!"

The two coaches felt very miserable. When Thomas arrived they were coupled up to him.

Fat Controller

"Good morning, Annie! Good morning, Clarabel," said Thomas cheerfully. "Isn't it a lovely day?"

Annie and Clarabel didn't answer.



Thomas was puzzled. Annie and Clarabel were usually such a happy pair. They would sing as he puffed along his branch line. This made Thomas work harder. He didn't know what he would do without them.

"What is the matter?" he asked. "You are behaving as if it's your last day here!"

"It **is**," sobbed Clarabel. The two coaches told Thomas what they had overheard from the Fat Controller.

"I won't have that!" puffed Thomas crossly. "I don't **want** new coaches. I want **you**."

He began to whistle loudly. The Fat Controller came to see what all the noise was about.

"If you get rid of Annie and Clarabel I won't pull another coach," he said bravely.

"Get rid of Annie and Clarabel?" frowned the Fat Controller. "Why should I wish to do that?"

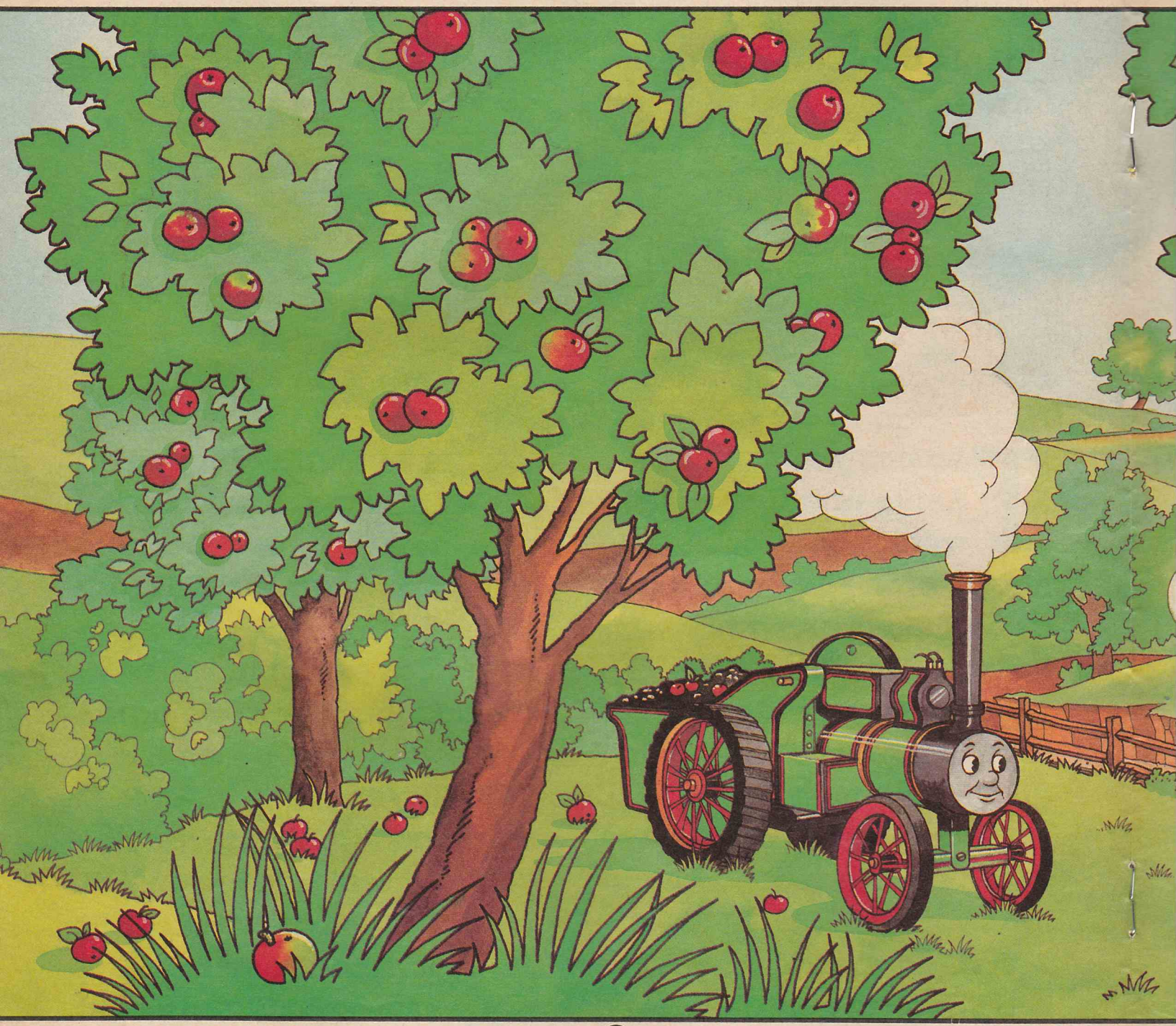
Thomas explained what the coaches had overheard.

The Fat Controller smiled. "You silly coaches. What I said was, I wanted to replace your old **seats**. Then you'll **look like** new coaches."

Annie and Clarabel did feel silly. But they were very happy to know that they would be staying with Thomas, after all.

THE END

Round the



What colour is Trevor the Traction Engine?

Who is puffing past him?

Are they looking at each other?

Where is the apple tree?

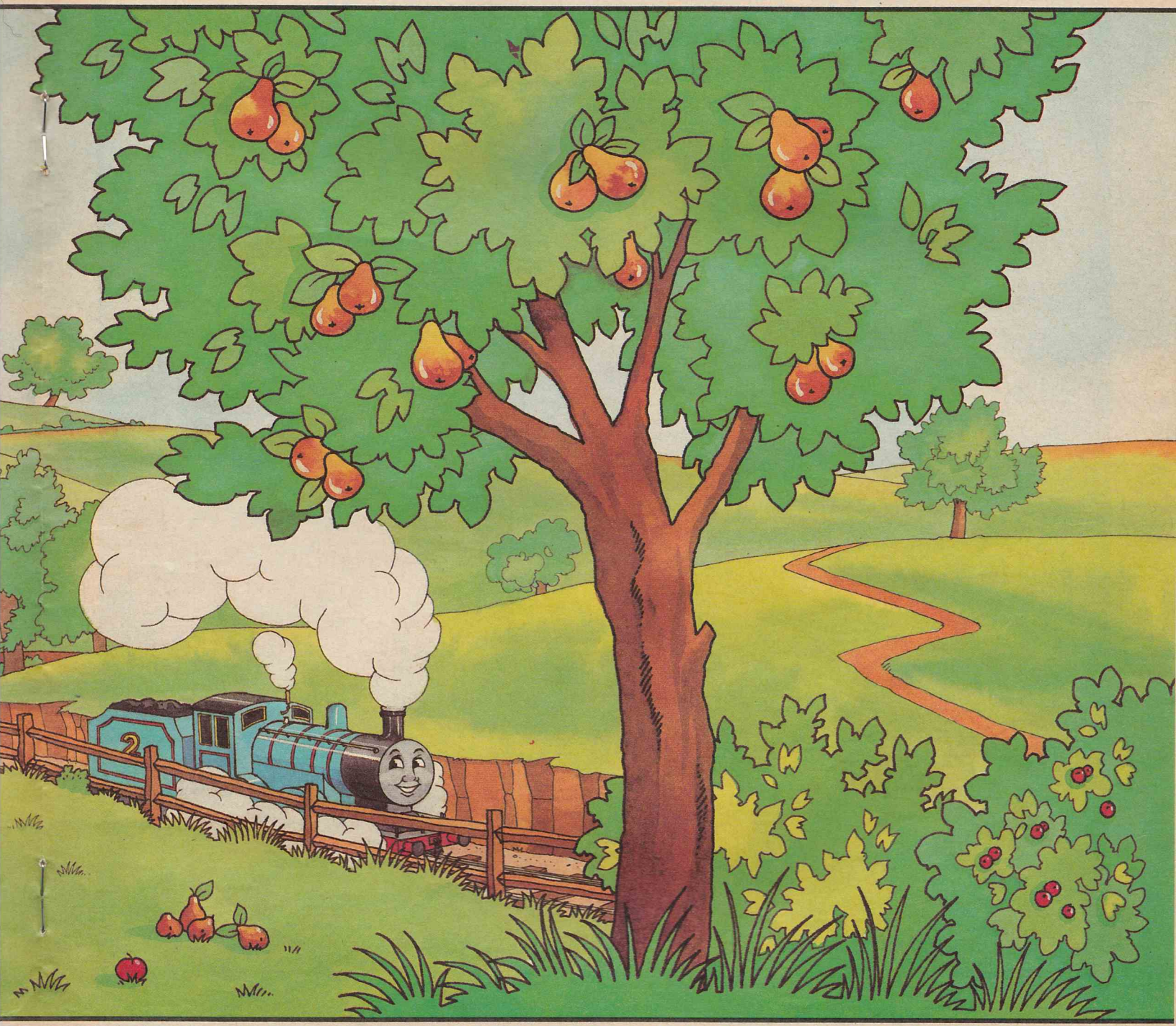
Where is the pear tree

How many pears are

How many apples are

Is the road bendy or st

e orchard!



r tree?

s are on the grass?

es are in Trevor's bunker?

y or straight?

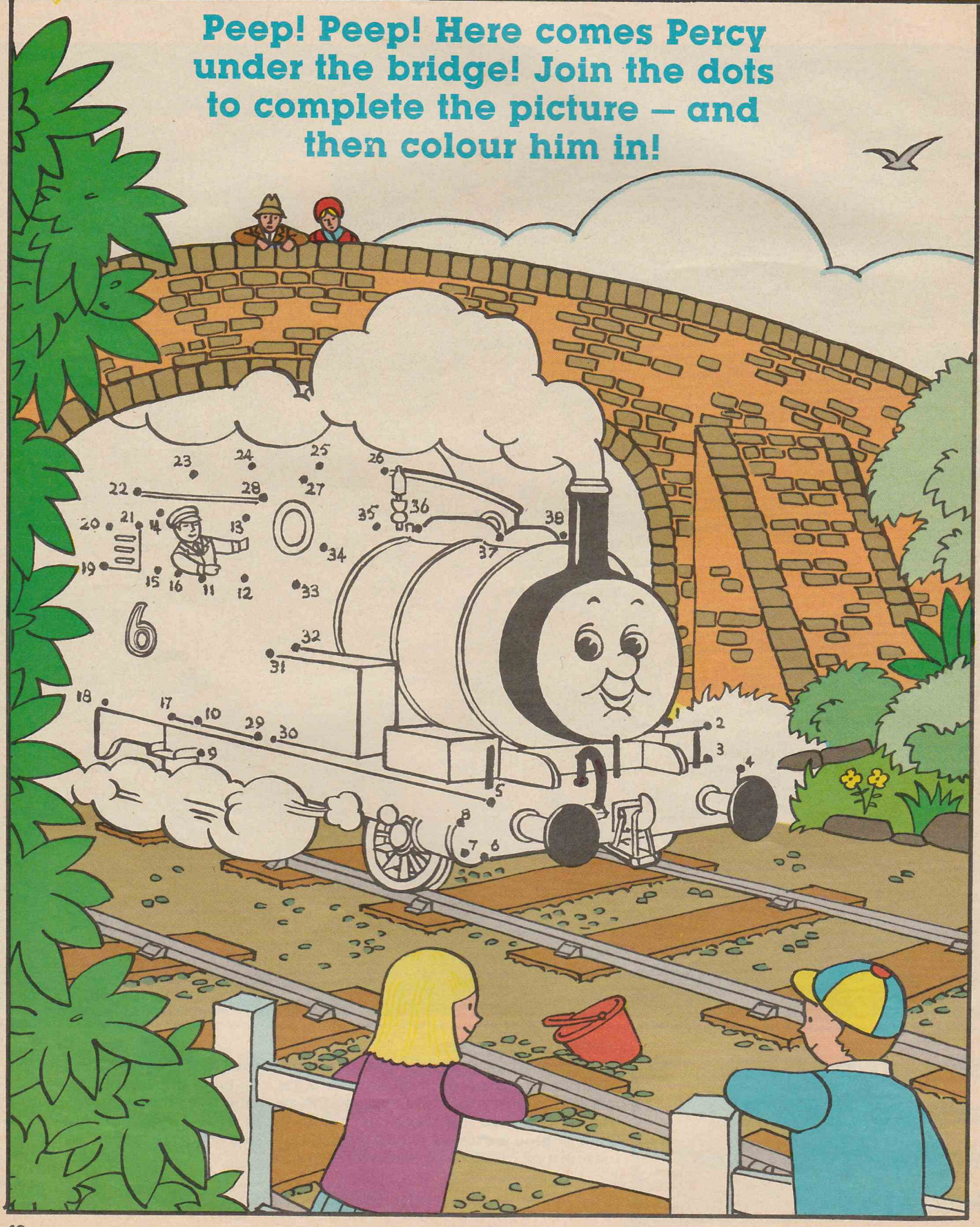
Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

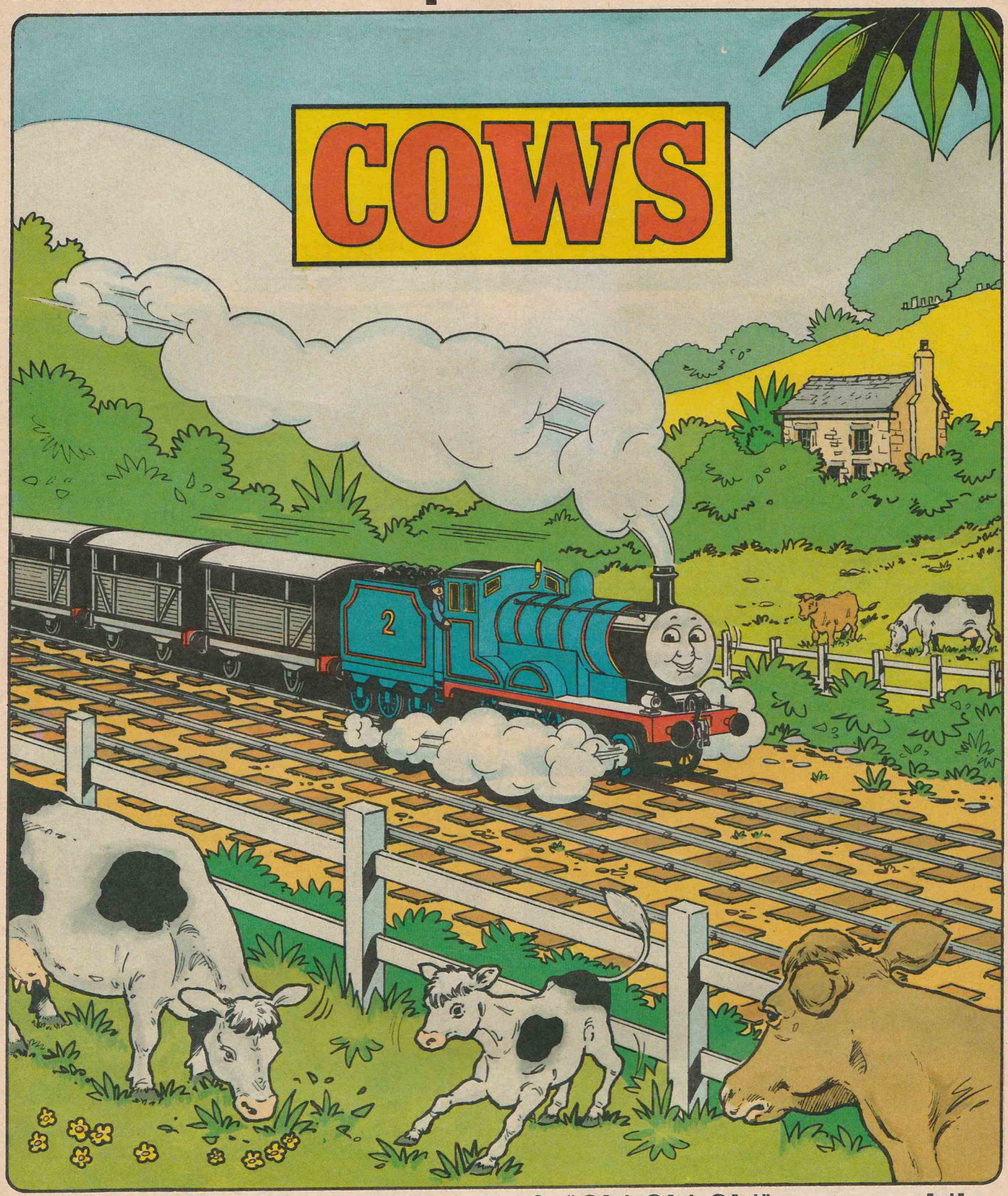
Next: Past the balloon race!

JOIN THE DOTS!

Peep! Peep! Here comes Percy under the bridge! Join the dots to complete the picture – and then colour him in!

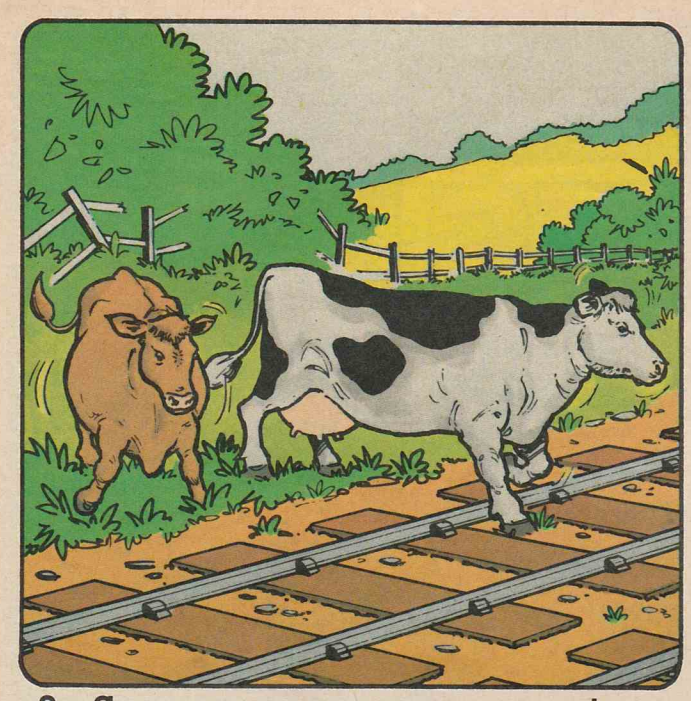


A listen and look story!



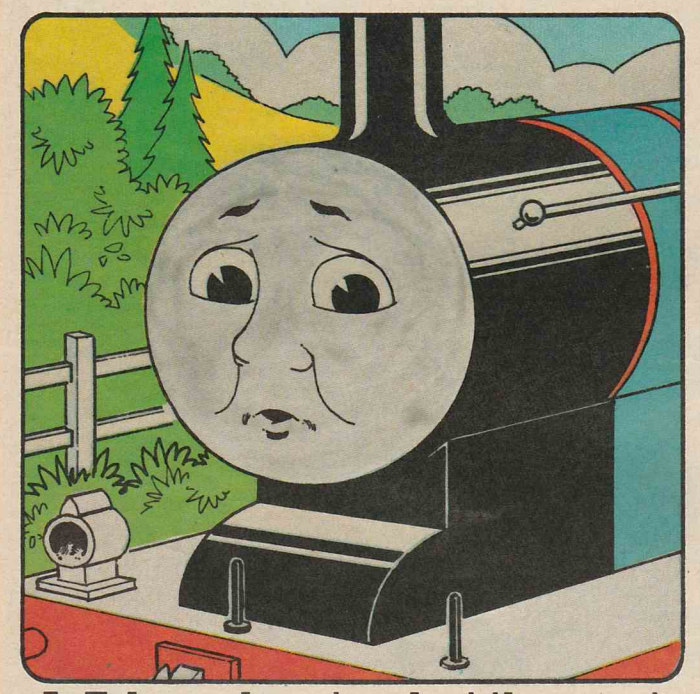
1. Edward was getting old. His bearings were worn and he would clank as he puffed along. He was taking empty cattle trucks to a market town. "Come on," he puffed.

2. "Oh! Oh! Oh!" screamed the trucks. The sun shone, the birds sang, but Edward was heading for trouble. He puffed and clanked and the trucks rattled and screamed.



3. Some cows were grazing nearby. They were not used to trains. The noise and smoke disturbed them. They broke through the fence and ran across the line.

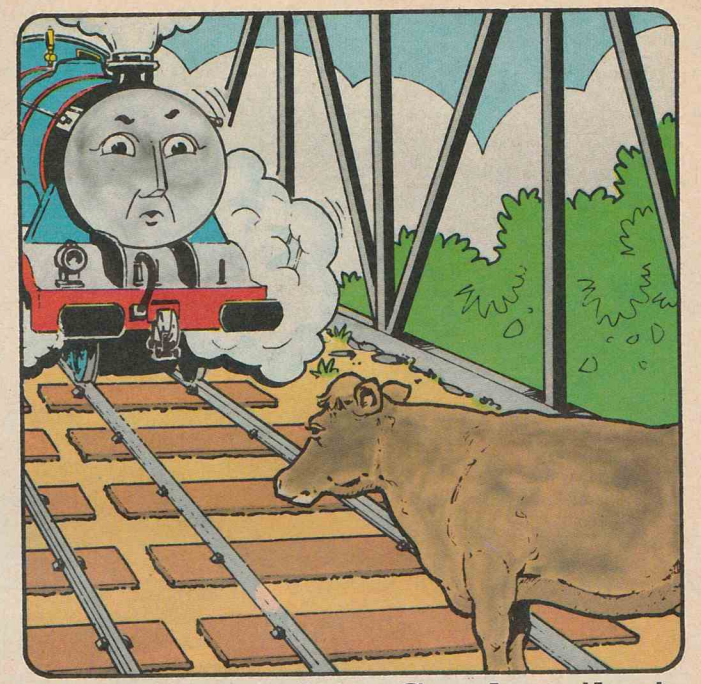
4. A coupling broke, leaving some trucks behind. Edward felt a jerk but didn't take much notice. "Bother those trucks," he thought. "Always fussing!"



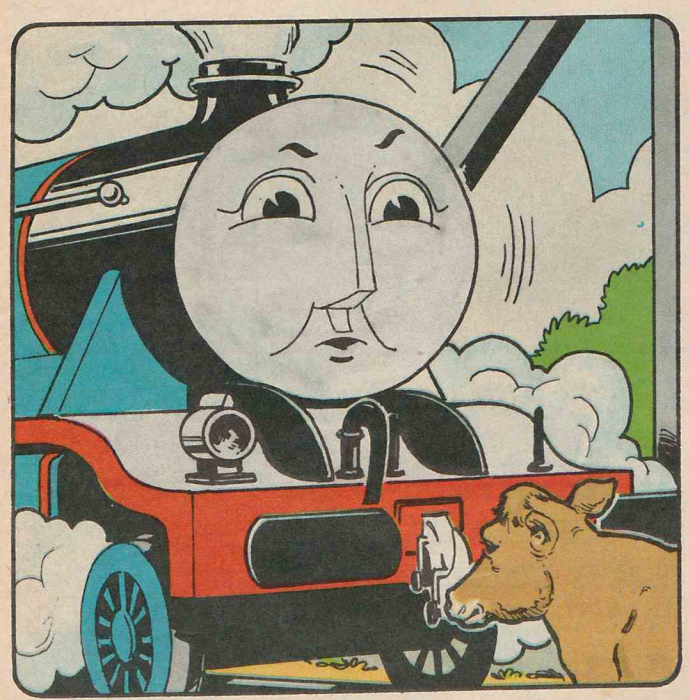
5. Edward arrived at the next station before either he or his driver realised what had happened. When Gordon and Henry heard about it, they laughed and boasted.

6. "Fancy allowing **cows** to break his train," laughed Gordon. "They wouldn't dare do that to **us**!" But Toby was cross. "I know what trouble cows are, Edward," he said.

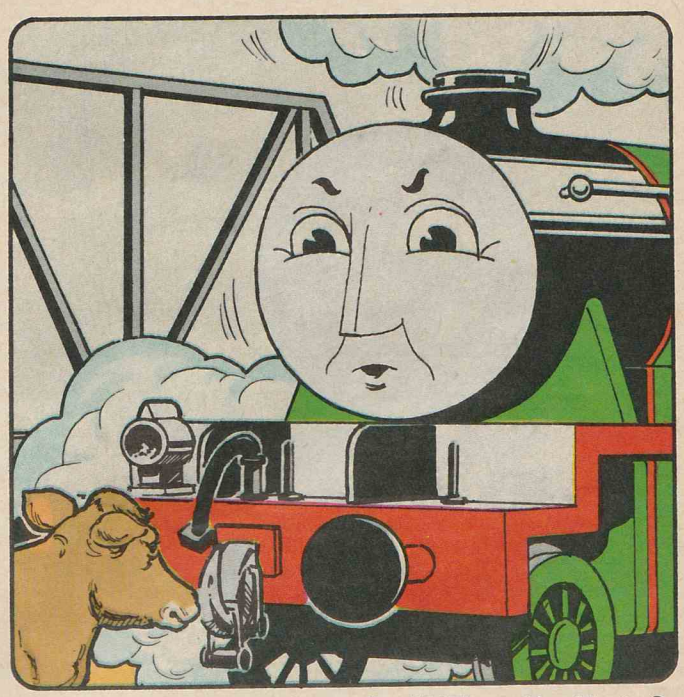
7. Some days later Gordon rushed through Edward's station. "Poop! Poop! Mind the cows!" he whistled cheekily. The line stretched far ahead and in the distance was a bridge.



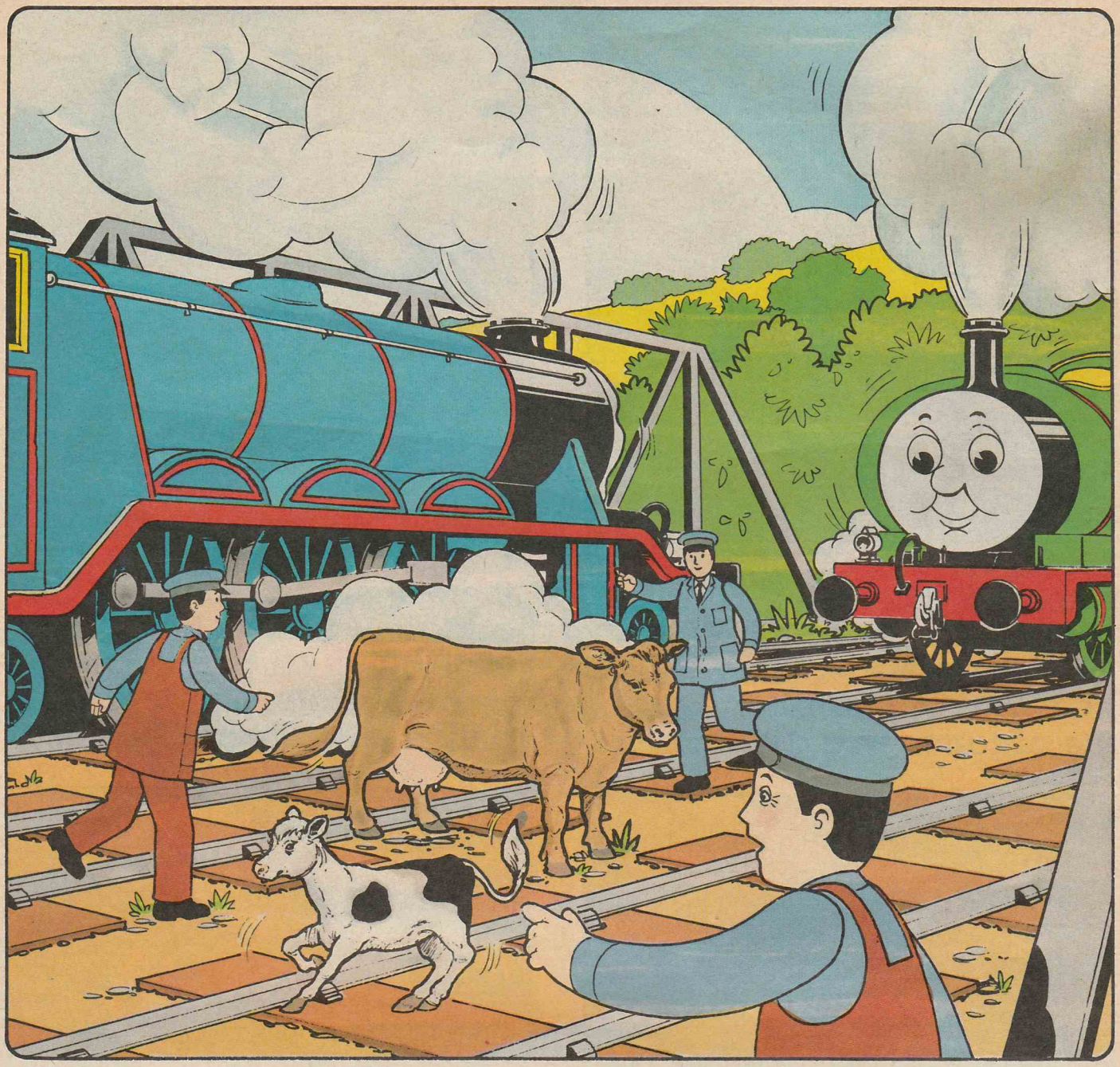
8. It seemed to Gordon that there was something on the bridge. His driver thought so too and shut off steam. "Pooh!" said Gordon. "It's only a cow! **Shooh! Shooh!"**



9. He moved slowly on to the bridge but the cow wouldn't 'Shooh'. She had lost her calf and felt lonely. Everyone tried to send her away but she wouldn't go.



10. Henry arrived. "What's this? A cow?" he said. "I'll soon settle her. Be off!" **"Mooh!"** said the cow loudly. Henry backed away nervously. "I might hurt her," he said.

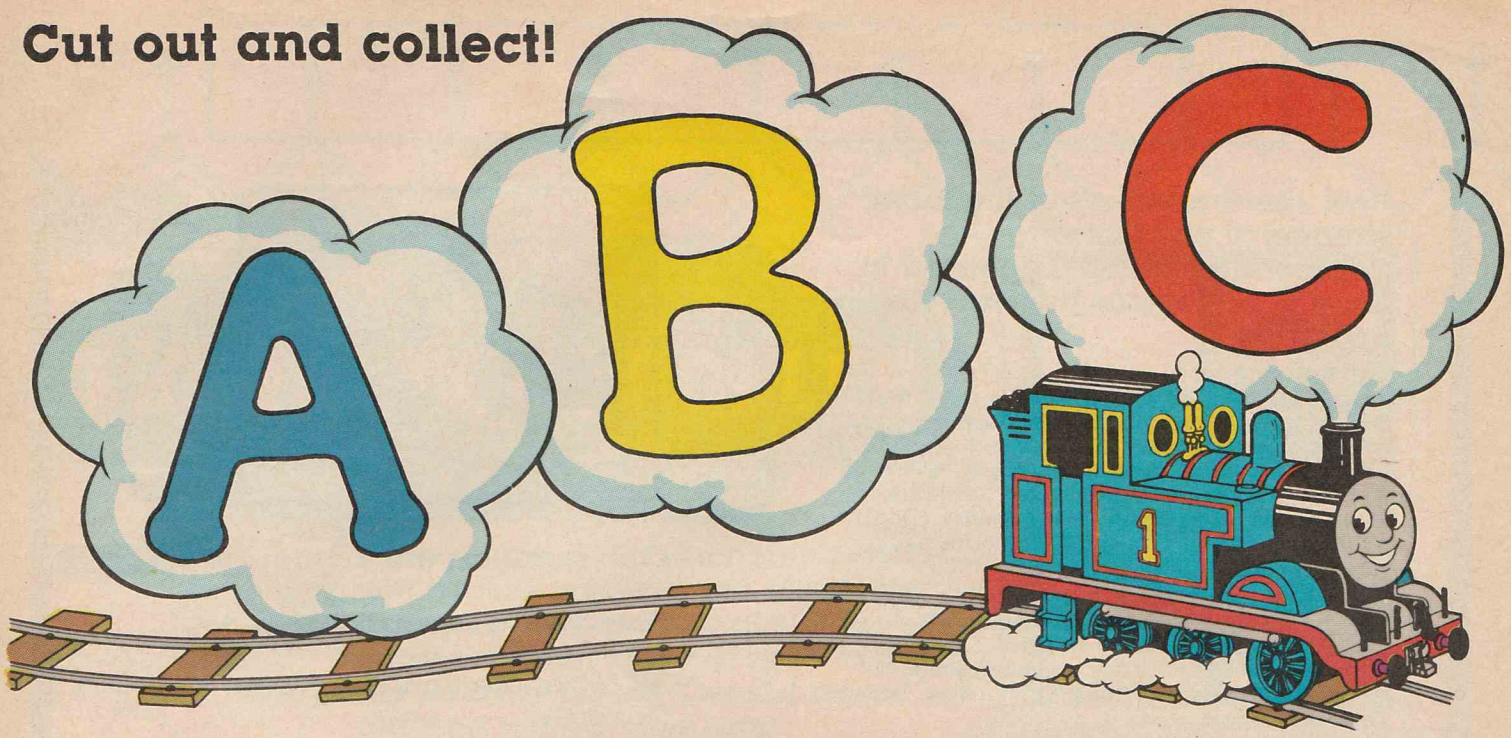


11. Henry's Guard told everyone about the cow at the next station, and he warned the signalman that the line was blocked. The Porter said, "That must be Bluebell. Her calf is here, ready to go to market. Percy will take it along." Bluebell was very pleased when Percy brought her calf to the bridge. The Porter led them both away.

12. "Let's not say a word about all this," whispered Gordon and Henry. They felt rather silly. But the story soon spread. "Ha! Ha!" chuckled Edward. "Two big engines afraid of a cow!" "We didn't want the cow to hurt herself, do you see what I mean?" said Gordon. But somehow he felt Edward saw only too well what he meant. **THE END**

In our next issue: Meet Trevor the Traction Engine!

Cut out and collect!



Oo

oil can

Competition Winners!

Here are the names of the lucky winners of our Drawing Competition which appeared in issue 10 of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**:

Club members

Richard Aldridge (number 7046) from *Hove*; **Nigel Dawes** (4397) *Bexhill-on-Sea*; **Steven Samways** (12331) *Basingstoke*; **Christopher Kirby** (2355) *Nottingham*; **Darren Pridmore** (10756) *London*; **Kirsten Middleton** (0738) *Bury St Edmunds*; **Craig Rock** (12231) *Bilston*; **Paul Kilbane** (2271) *Bootle*; **Jake Hamilton** (11153) *Catford*; **Jonathan Collister** (10377) *Cockermouth*.

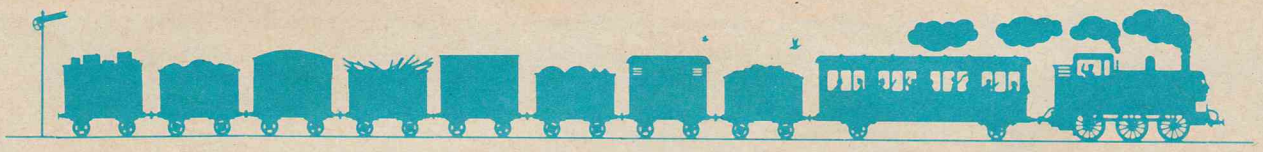
Non-members

James Little from *Bedford*; **Coleen McGilligan**, *Dungiven*; **Hanna Chambers**, *Eastbourne*; **Scott Manford**, *Durham*; **Matthew Charlton**, *Exeter*; **Tina Simms**, *Welwyn Garden City*; **Jonathan Smith**, *Newport*; **David Burke**, *Dublin*; **Marrtin Bray**, *Horley*; **Thomas Pritchard**, *Worksop*.

Club members win a **drawing kit** and **poster art set**.

Non-members win a splendid **writing set**.

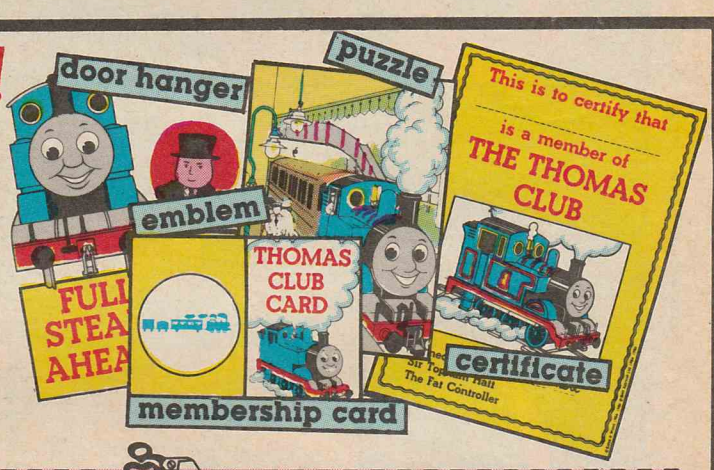
All prizes are from *Copywrite Stationery*.



If you were not a winner, better luck next time!

News of a great offer!

Take out a subscription to *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends* and have every issue sent straight to your home every fortnight!



What's more, if you do not already belong to the *Thomas Club*, you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting Club Pack will be sent to you too!

It costs £9.00 including postage and packing to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for one year. Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.00 to: *Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.*

Please allow 28 days delivery of your first magazine and Club Pack.

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for one year and enclose cheque/postal order for £9.00 to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the **Thomas Club** if I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

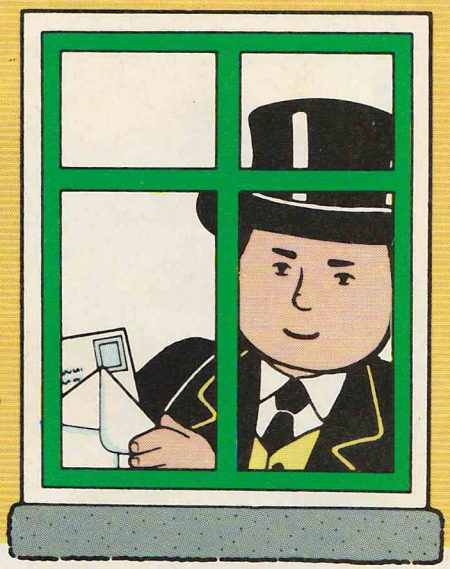
Signature of parent/guardian.....

Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.

Make your cheque or postal order payable to *Marvel Comics Ltd.*

Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like to help my mummy. When I get things for her I pretend I'm Thomas. She says I'm a Really Useful Engine.
Love from **Malcolm,**
aged 3.

Upon my soul! I am sure you are, Malcolm.

Malcolm wins a splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine egg cup,** from *Wedgwood.*

FIRST THING!

Dear Fat Controller,
What does Thomas have for breakfast?
From **Alexander.**

Thomas has his firebox filled with good, black coal every morning – there is nothing he likes better!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our birthday good wishes go to: **Brian O'Dell, Nichola McDowell, Christopher Sharpe, Carl Lorn, Thomas Valeet, Amy Gulliford, Emma Ord, Sean Williamson, Christopher Evans, Catriona Bennett, Jonathan Daley, Ryan Butler, Adam Paris, Ricky Condron, Alan Stone, Daniel Poulton, Andrew Alexander, Ben Davis, Kirsty Wilkinson, William Ludlow, Andrew Trimble, Scott Moran, Tom Scott, Robert Sheehy, Nicholas Tarling, James Adams, James Littlewood, Craig Rudd, Matthew Bannister, Michael Day, Paul Day, Edward Tuck, Timothy Young, Kelly Innes, Christopher Alexander, Richard Scott, Gareth Taylor, Graeme Goodwill, David Whetren, John Tinsley, Terry Thomas, Matthew Eyre, Daniel Eyre, Colin Adams, Rhys Edwards, Michael Foulger, Benjamin Wilcock, Nicci Brearey, Victoria Greenwood, Benjamin Lweis, Steven Doyle** and **Thomas Pennant!**

If you'd like a birthday mentioned, please send details on a postcard, at least 8 weeks in advance! We cannot promise to print every birthday we receive, but we will try our best!

TRAIN NOISES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I would like to be a train driver when I am older. I want to drive a steam train because they go **poop, poop.** I like diesel trains too, because they go **diddley-dee-diddley-da.**
Love from **Jonathan,**
aged 6.

I am fond of engine noises too, Jonathan. I listen to them as I sit in my office. I find them very soothing.

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller.

Send your letters to:

The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.

TAKE CARE OF HIM. HE'S A REAL CHARACTER.
TV STAR AND LIFE-TIME MEMBER OF THE RED HOUSE,
SPOT'S YOURS, FREE, WHEN YOUR FAMILY JOINS THE RED HOUSE.

THE CLUB WHERE YOU ONLY GET THE BOOKS YOU ASK FOR.

Unlike other Clubs, The Red House doesn't force books on you. Instead, you're free to choose from the regular issues of the Red House Post as many or as few books as you like. Your only obligation is to buy 3 books in your first year of membership. (and book prices start from as little as £1.50).

SPOT-FREE TO GOOD HOMES

SPOT, PETER RABBIT, POSTMAN PAT AND MANY, MANY MORE.

You'll find all your favourites in The Red House. Our experienced Editorial team have selected the best hardback and paperback books available from authors such as Jill Murphy, Roald Dahl, Dick Bruna, Helen Oxenbury and the 'pop-up' man, Robert Crowther. And with our new 'At Home' section, there are even books for Mum and Dad. And remember, as a Red House member you can always return your books for a full refund if you are not entirely satisfied.

Nearly every book offered to our members is well below the book-shop price (with many around half price). So bring your family into The Red House and bring the magic of books to your children.

200,000 FAMILIES CAN'T BE WRONG.

Clip the coupon and not only will we send your FREE Spot, we'll send you a £1 OFF voucher for you to use against your first order.

Please send us our free SPOT dog and enrol my family in The Red House.
I agree to purchase a minimum of 3 books during our first year's membership.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

_____

POST CODE _____

Children's names and dates of birth.

_____

_____

_____

TF-4-88

THE RED HOUSE, WITNEY, OXFORD OX8 6YQ.
TELEPHONE: (0993) 71144/74171.

THE RED HOUSE
CHILDRENS BOOK CLUB

THE RED HOUSE, WITNEY, OXFORD OX8 6YQ. TEL: (0993) 71144/74171.